

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 220919

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM WARREN CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN), GR, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT TO GREECE

REF: ATHENS 7517

1. YOUR REPORT ON GREEK THINKING CONCERNING MY PROPOSED TRIP TO ATHENS WAS MOST USEFUL. I WAS PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S INTEREST IN SUCH A VISIT, AND THE OTHER POSITIVE REACTIONS.

2. AT THE MOMENT, THE FIRST DAYS OF THE OCTOBER 18-24 TIME FRAME APPEAR FINE AND WE WILL WORK TO CONFIRM THESE DATES AS PLANNING FOR THE TRIP PROGRESSES. HOWEVER, I WOULD PREFER TO AVOID A FIRM COMMITMENT ON DATES UNTIL I HAVE HAD ANOTHER TALK WITH CY (WHO IS OUT OF THE CITY) ON OUR RESPECTIVE FALL SCHEDULES.

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3. I WELCOME YOUR VIEW THAT MY VISIT WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO EXPLORE COOPERATION IN SOCIAL, SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND CULTURAL AREAS AS WE MOVE TO BROADEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ATHENS. WE WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE PROPOSALS WHICH THE GREEKS AND THE EMBASSY FORMULATE AND, AT THE SAME TIME, WE WILL ALSO BE STUDYING AREAS OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN THESE FIELDS.

4. I WOULD WELCOME AS WELL A FULL DISCUSSION OF OUTSTANDING BILATERAL ISSUES AND REGIONAL DISPUTES DURING MY VISIT. YOU SHOULD PROCEED ON THAT BASIS IN WORKING ON AN AGENDA WITH THE GREEKS.

5. FINALLY, I WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE GREEKS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF KYPRIANOU'S PRESENCE IN ATHENS TO URGE A MORE MODERATE GREEK-CYPRIOT APPROACH AS WE ENDEAVOR TO RESTART THE INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATING PROCESS. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE GREEK SENSITIVITIES IN THIS REGARD, ANY INCLINATION BY ATHENS TO INFLUENCE KYPRIANOU TOWARD A MORE REASONABLE APPROACH ON CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AT ANY APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY.

CHRISTOPHER

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